

# METHOD STATEMENT

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The preparation/dryness of the subfloor and installation procedures should all be as BS 8203: 2001. i.e.: The relative humidity of a solid subfloor should be below 75%RH when tested with a Hygrometer as described in this British Standard.

Prior to selecting a smoothing compound, it will be necessary to investigate what type of traffic the floorcovering once installed will be subjected to. Latex smoothing compounds are not suitable for areas that will receive heavy traffic, especially heavy-wheeled traffic with narrow wheels. Never subject a newly installed floorcovering to heavy wheeled traffic at an early stage, as this will disperse trowelled applied adhesive from below the floorcovering which may result in future problems. Wheels should be + 30mm and preferably made of neoprene. If it is necessary to traffic the floorcovering at an early stage, protect the installation with hardboard or plywood.

For specific subfloor types and preparation, please refer to our Specifications Subfloor Types.

**Recent studies have shown that micro-organisms can colonise, under certain conditions, the area between the subfloor (wooden or cement) and the installed flooring. These micro-organisms can thrive in warm, damp conditions where there is sufficient 'food' available – for example, certain types of levelling compound used prior to the flooring installation. During their normal life-cycle, these micro-organisms produce a colorant, usually pink, purple, red or black (but can be other colours), which can 'bleed' through to the surface of the PVC flooring product over a period of several months or longer.**

**Advice should always be sought from the manufacturers of subfloor preparations and adhesives prior to installation, to ensure that their products are suitable for the environment in which the PVC flooring is to be laid – this advice may include using products that contain biocides or of specific resin types.**

**For wooden fabricated underlay e.g. plywood, care must be taken to store the material in an area where it will not become damp or contaminated.**

**The 'bleed' through of colorant created by micro-biological activity below PVC floorcovering products is not attributable to a product/manufacturing fault.**

Although Tarkett may on occasion list a choice of adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp proof membrane manufacturers and types, we do not however guarantee the products listed (except for Tarkett wood adhesives) or suggest that the list of products or manufactures, are complete or current. Tarkett would not accept any liability (except for Tarkett wood adhesives) for any of these products failing to perform in conjunction with any of their products. It is the responsibility of the adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp proof membrane manufacturer and flooring contractor to ensure the products being used are appropriate for use and applied in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations.

It is imperative that underfloor heating systems have been previously commissioned and found to be functioning correctly prior to the floor finish being installed. Ensure that the underfloor heating system is switched off 48 hours prior to the floorcovering installation commencing and remains off for at least 48 hours after the installation is complete. During the period of decommissioning of the underfloor heating system, an alternative heating source should be provided, if required, to ensure that the area of installation is kept at a constant temperature of 18°C - 27°C. Gradually increase the temperature over a number of days by only a few degrees per day until the desired room temperature is reached. The temperature should never exceed the floorcovering industry agreed maximum of 27°C at the underside of the floorcovering (the adhesive line). Failure to follow these guidelines can result in the floorcovering de-bonding, joints opening, and on some occasions discolouring, all which can occur within a long or short period of time.

### **CONDITIONING**

It is important that the material (rolls) is stored in an upright position. 24 hours prior to use, the material should be cut to the desired lengths and acclimatised within the area to be installed by laying flat on a prepared, clean subfloor at a temperature of 18° - 27°C. This temperature should be maintained throughout the duration of the installation. The minimum temperature of the subfloor should be 15°C. Care should be taken when handling all types of floorcoverings to ensure that safety procedures are followed and damage does not occur to the material.

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### WALL INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

If the walls are also to be covered with Aquarelle Wallgard or another type of PVC covering, this should take place after the installation of the floor covering.

### DRAINAGE

1. Only drainage systems with specifically designed drainage covers are suitable for using with a vinyl floorcovering in this type of application, e.g.: Tarkett supplied floor drains, flanges and clamp covers.
2. **IMPORTANT:** to allow perfect water drainage, the subfloor should be foreseen with a slope of 1 cm per metre towards the drain.

### FLOOR INSTALLATION

1. Fit the Vinyl using standard fitting techniques or by templating the area. **All consecutive sheets should be installed in the opposite direction to the previous sheet installed. (Reverse sheets)** i.e.: 1<sup>st</sup> sheet facing north, 2<sup>nd</sup> sheet facing south, etc. Print or arrows on the reverse of the material can identify the direction of the sheets.
2. **If there are any exposed edges of the floorcovering that are likely to allow water to gain access to the subfloor, it is then essential that the material is adhered with an epoxy or polyurethane adhesive (advice should be sought from the adhesive manufacturer).** If there are no exposed edges, the material can be adhered with an acrylic adhesive.
3. Apply Embond 170 pressure sensitive acrylic adhesive from Tarkett.
4. **Embond 170 Pressure sensitive adhesives should be trowel applied using a euro A2 or a 1.5mm x 5mm "V" notched trowel and then immediately rolled with a lambs wool roller (removes the risk of a trowel applied adhesive mirroring), which should be continually re-saturated in adhesive directly from the adhesive tub to prevent the original trowel applied adhesive from being poorly dispersed over the subfloor. Allow the adhesive to become opaque and tacky, prior to placing the material into the adhesive and roll with a 68Kg roller. Do not roll the last 25cm section of the vinyl, as this will ensure that the second half of the sheet is easily pulled back to expose the edge of adhesive.**
5. Adhere the material over the cove detail with a suitable contact adhesive.
6. Use a hot air gun to gently heat the floorcovering to ensure a close fit to the cove former and continue up the wall overlapping the material installed on the wall by 25mm. Use a short scribe (over & under) to scribe the bottom edge of the wall material onto the overlap and cut to size. Locate the centre of the hole where the drain cover was removed and cut the Vinyl to leave sufficient material to be clamped down by the flange. Apply gentle heat with a hot air gun just prior to clamping down and then screw the top of the cover into the flange. Roll or weight down until fully bonded to the subfloor. After the lapse of at least 24 hours, hot weld all joins.  

Or
7. If the wall has ceramic tiles installed, a capping strip to receive the vinyl, should have already been put in place at the desired height at the time the ceramics were being fixed. The last row of ceramics should have then been fitted hard against the capping strip. Alternately, the last row of tiles can be left off and installed after the Vinyl is installed. This would require the ceramics to overlap on top of the vinyl. The cove former should be installed as previously explained above.
8. Fit the Vinyl using standard fitting techniques or by templating the area. If there are any exposed edges of the floorcovering that are likely to allow water to gain access to the subfloor, it is then essential that the material is adhered with an epoxy or polyurethane adhesive. If there are no exposed edges, the material can be adhered with an acrylic adhesive. Adhere the material over the cove detail with a contact adhesive.

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9. Use a hot air gun to gently heat the floorcovering to ensure a close fit to the cove former and continue up the wall, trimming and tucking the material into the capping strip or leave sufficient material to be overlapped by the ceramic tiles or the wall covering.
10. Locate the centre of the hole where the drain cover was removed and cut the Vinyl to leave sufficient material to be clamped down by the flange. Apply gentle heat with a hot air gun just prior to placing the clamping ring. Trim off any exposed material. Roll or if adhered with an epoxy, weight down until fully bonded to the subfloor.
11. Once the floor covering has been installed, the wall covering if specified, should then be installed to overlap onto the floor covering.
12. After the lapse of at least 24 hours, hot weld all joins including mitres.

### **WELDING SAFE T**

1. Allow at least 24 hours to lapse prior to hot welding with the vinyl welding cable.
2. Groove seams using a Tarkett Seam Groover (1258027) & Blade (1258028), "P" type grooving tool or an automatic seam router.



3. The groove should be down 2/3rds into the thickness of the material.
4. Make sure the groove is clear of all debris and excess adhesive prior to commencing welding.
5. The recommended welding temperature is 250-300°C when fitted with a Tarkett 1258012 speed-weld nozzle.



6. Using a Leister hot air welding gun fitted with a speed-weld nozzle, this will require the setting to be approximately number 5. If unsure consult manufacturer's instructions for correct setting. Set the welding gun at this temperature for several minutes prior to commencing welding to attain the correct temperature.
7. Try out the welding operation on a scrap piece of Safe T prior to welding the main area.
8. Weld at approximately 2 metres a minute.
9. Allow the welded join to cool down, prior to trimming the weld cable flush with the lower level the Vinyl using the Tarkett Vinyl Trimming Knife. This knife trims between the studs. (1258011) Care should be taken when trimming the cable flush to ensure the studs are not damaged.

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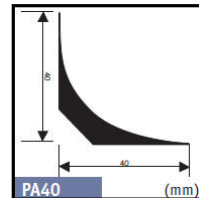
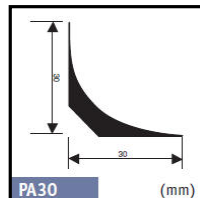
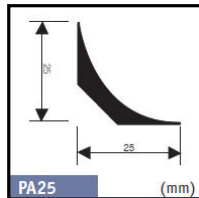
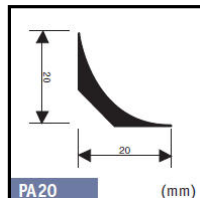
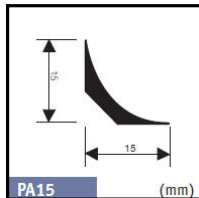
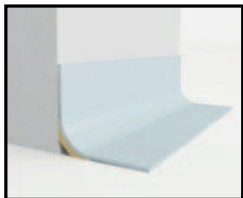
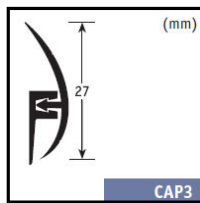
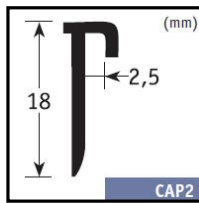
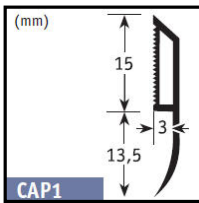
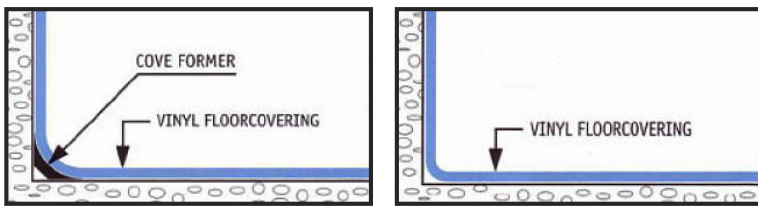
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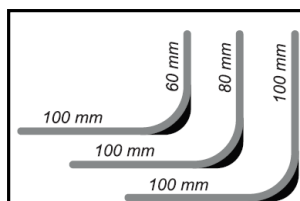
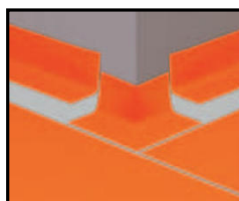
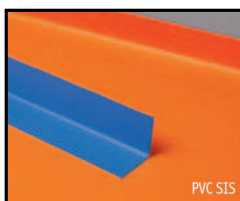
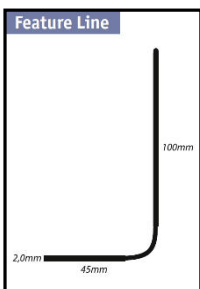
### SELF COVING

Vinyl can be covered without a cove former. Simply fold and crease Vinyl into a 90° angle (corner roller - item 1258010 / hockey stick - item 1258003). This method of coving eliminates internal and external vertical joints by allowing the material to be wrapped around these design details by using a series of 45° angle cuts. It is also possible to self-cover Vinyl over a 2 & 3.8cm radius cove former and up a wall to a desired height where it is normally finished to a PVC capping seal. This can be achieved in one piece with a minimum of joints, although there will have to be internal and external vertical joints. Adhere all vertical surfaces and cove detail with a solvent free contact adhesive.



### PVC PRE-FORMED SET-IN COVING

This type of product is available in various lengths or rolls and varies in height and protrusion at the foot of the cove. Fix the coving to a prepared wall and subfloor with a contact adhesive. Measure the area to be installed and cut off the lengths of the vinyl so that they overlap onto the cove by approximately 2cm. Overlap sheets by 2.5cm and re-cut to leave a close butt joint. Adhere the vinyl using the same acrylic adhesive as before for the sheet (whilst still overlapping onto the cove) up to the edge of the set-in cove. Using short scribes, (over & unders) scribe and cut the vinyl to the edge of the set-in cove and roll with a 68Kg roller whilst the adhesive is still wet. After the lapse of at least 24 hours, hot weld all sheet to sheet and sheet to set-in coving joints with the matching Eclipse welding rod.



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### PVC SIT-ON COVING (NOT SUITABLE FOR WET AREAS)

This type of coving should not be used when watertight joints are required. It is normally used as an alternative to a wooden skirting in areas that will not be subjected to large amounts of surface applied water.

Sit-on PVC coving is available in lengths of 2m as well as in coils of varying lengths and is normally 10cm in height and protrudes 1 – 1.5cm out at the toe. Install the floorcovering in the normal manner, scribing to a wall instead of a skirting and adhere to the subfloor. Fix the coving to a prepared wall with a contact adhesive. Prior to adhering the sit-on coving to the wall, the scribed edge of the floorcovering to the wall can be sealed with a sealant. This will provide extra protection to the floorcovering from surface moisture attack, but should not be used as a cheaper alternative to a pre-formed coving or self-coving when a watertight joint is required.

